



The Minutes of May are Ticking Away!



Hello Aviation Alumni and Friends,

Like Captain Hook in Peter Pan, the clock can sometimes be viewed as our true adversary. As you receive this newsletter, the “clock of savings” is potentially ticking away. Not only do we want you to participate, we also want to save you as much cash as possible!

The early registration deal is going to expire on May 20, which is only a few short days away. Why wait any longer? Get registered for the 11th Annual WMU Aviation Golf Outing right now!

- [Click Here to Register](#)
- Promo Code: EarlyBird2022 to receive the discounted price

Back by popular demand, the gift at this year’s event is a large **WMU Aviation stadium blanket**. This highly coveted item is valued at \$75, which makes your registration look incredibly inexpensive!

Please know, this event is for EVERYONE, regardless of your golfing skill level. The most important aspect of the event is reconnecting, networking, and coming together for a great cause – the expansion of the Aviation Alumni and Friends Scholarship. We are very excited to be awarding our first scholarship at this year's event. Even if you think you are horrible at golf (let's be honest, just about all of us are awful!), the purpose of the event is to get together, have some laughs, and maybe a beverage or two.

If after all of that, you are still unable to make it, I'll make my next request – make a donation! Because I believe in the words of Dave Grohl and the Foo Fighters, and don't think you should ever get "[Something from Nothing](#)" I am willing to give something for a donation.

- [\\$50 Donation – I'll send you a new College of Aviation t-shirt](#)
- [\\$200 Hole Sponsorship – I'll send you a new College of Aviation t-shirt AND a new WMU Aviation Stadium blanket](#)

In this month's newsletter, we spend time with the Sunshine State's very own Chris Desmond. Growing up in Winter Haven, Fla, Desmond chose to pursue his aviation passion in the Winter Wonderland of Michigan. Graduating from the College of Aviation in 2018, he continued his trek northwards, settling down in The Last Frontier of Alaska. Click the link below for the full story. Don't forget, scroll all the way down for additional stories of College of Aviation students, faculty and/or staff.

ATTENTION Adam Turner! You are April's winner. Remember, in each newsletter, there is a way to register for a prize each month. Make sure you increase your chances by playing each month. Congratulations to Steve Denomme for playing and winning last month! Adam, please contact tom.thinnes@wmich.edu and I'll get your gift shipped out to you ASAP

News, Events and Save the Dates!

- **The 2022 Annual Aviation Golf Outing**
 - Registration is now open!
 - **Sign up before May 20** and receive the early bird discount of \$125 per golfer. After that, registration will increase to \$145.
 - For more information and to get registered, [please visit our website.](#)

- Use Promo Code: **EarlyBird2022**

- **WMU Aviation Alumni Reunion and Get-Together**
 - **SAVE THE DATES: Friday, Sept. 16 and Saturday, Sept. 17**

Thanks for being great supporters! Please let us know how you are doing. Send updates to tom.thinnes@wmich.edu!

Go Broncos!

Tom Thinnes
Western Michigan University
College of Aviation
Recruitment, Marketing and Outreach

Thanks for making it to the end! Now that you're here, fill out the registration form to enter into the April prize give-away. [Click Here!](#)

From Sun 'n Fun to Air in Alaska – Chris Desmond's Aviation Aspirations Continue to Soar



Raised in Winter Haven, Fla., and learning all things aviation in nearby Lakeland, Chris Desmond never liked the cold.

So naturally he would head north to Western Michigan University to pursue his degree and advanced training in aviation. And, of course, go even farther north to Alaska to begin his career. Five years later, he's still there and plans to stay.

It's not that Desmond, a 2015 graduate of Winter Haven High School, missed the climate aspects of any geography class he ever took. Alaska's rugged, magnificent beauty and unmatched environment have warmed his psyche and tempered his body's response to chilly temperatures. For a pilot, there is a lot of unique and sensational flying up there. So, in effect, what cold?

But there's more to Desmond's affinity for the 49th state and for his love of flying.

[Read More](#)

- [Meet Aviation's 2022 WMU Presidential Scholar - Yewon Lee](#)
- [Maintaining Aviation Excellence – Christopher Myrick Purposely Picks A Career in Aviation Technical Operations](#)

[MAKE A GIFT](#)

So that all may learn

Donations made today are an investment in providing unique opportunities for students and pave a pathway for generations to come, ensuring that 'all may learn' at WMU.



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